

TROOP 824 NEWS

A Publication of Boy Scout Troop 824

January 2002

Merit Badge Counselors

Attention Adults—

To those that have applied to be merit badge counselors since the last list was published by Council in August, please let Mr. Epestine know your counselor number and which badge so he can keep the troop's records up to date. This is most important with Advancement Camp coming up. If you have not applied to be a merit badge counselor, please consider doing so.

Philmont 2003

Troop 824 has been allotted 4 treks to Philmont for June 11-23, 2003. Interested in going? You must have completed your freshman year before the trip. A \$50 non-refundable deposit will be due by the January 14, 2002 troop meeting (this month). This can be paid from your long-term camping account.

Total cost may be around \$1000. The Philmont fee is \$444. Transportation (probably by train) will be approximately \$250. Cost of additional gear will vary, depending what you have, but may be another \$250-300. Bob Miller (892-8249) and Anne Kinmartin (487-7985) have volunteered to head the Philmont committee. They will be calling a meeting for parents of those interested in attending in the near future. In the meantime, if you have any questions, give one of them a call or catch them at a troop meeting.

Summer Camp 2002

Troop 824 will be attending Medicine Mountain Scout Ranch in the Black Hills Area Council, South Dakota, July 14-20, 2002, leaving by bus on Saturday, July 13. Approximate cost will be around \$300-400. Everyone should have heard about this by now and more details will be coming along. Most importantly, a \$50 deposit is due by January 28. Questions may be directed to Jim Chambers (894-5697). Check out www.bsa-bhac.org for more information on the camp.

Advancement Camp

Just a reminder. Advancement Camp will be held January 25-27 at the Swift Explorer Base at S-F. NOW would be a good time to figure out what you'll be working on (or Scoutmaster will assign you something you might not like).

Also, many of you seem to think that merit badge counselors appear as if by magic at this event. They do not. You should call them to be sure they plan to attend and perhaps be courteous enough to see if they have time to be your counselor. Rank advancements for Star and above should call for SM conference & BoR *before* camp.

White Pages

The White pages Troop fundraiser should be coming in February. With the out-of-council summer camp this summer and Philmont next, this is a good way to earn your way (a Scout is Thrifty). Info will be forthcoming as soon as it becomes available.

Shiloh Refund

What? Money back? Yes, indeed. Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Veinfurt in finding a cheaper place to eat and letting everyone eat on their own Sunday morning, we will be refunding \$25/person. To make life easier on our treasurer, forms are available to direct the refund back into your long-term camping account or the Friends of Troop 824 fund (which will save you the effort of writing a check in February). See Mr. Veinfurt for details.

Merit Badge Corner

Did you know there is a Traffic Safety merit badge? With as many Scouts in the troop that are driving or are about to drive on learner's permits, it seems appropriate to mention. New requirements were introduced mid-2001 to raise awareness of dangers of driving while fatigued. Did you know the first 100 troops (nationwide) with 5 or more Scouts earning the badge under the new requirements before July, 2002 will receive \$50 gift certificates to the Scout shop? A good way to do a good deed for the troop and enhance your driving skills all at once. *Hint, hint.*

Merit badge centers are sometimes mentioned in the Upcoming Events and you may be wondering what that is about. Some merit badge centers are council-wide and some district-wide. Some have pre-requisites that must be completed before attending. Some allow you to complete the merit badge and others will get you started. Some require troop sign-ups, others allow individual registrations. Recently, Gateway Computers offered Computer Merit Badge Centers. Upcoming centers include

Truck Transportation, Genealogy, Stamp Collecting, and Radio. Information on council-wide centers can be found in the Duffle Bag. If you don't have one handy, they can be found at www.stlbsa.org.

Winter Advancement Camp

By Levi Tucker

Advancement camp is a lot of fun. Last year there were a number of rank advances and merit badges earned. For camp usually go to the Swift Explorer Base at S bar F. All you have to do for camp is sign up for about 3 (at the least) merit badges before camp or work on other badges that you have already started, and call your counselor to invite him/her to camp. This is a great place to get them done because we don't cook or clean anything until Sunday when we clean the cabin. On Friday we get to camp and get ready for the night, on Saturday, we get up, eat breakfast, then start work on merit badges. You can work on anything you want to from one rank to three ranks, or you can work from three to seven badges or more. Some of the more popular ones are the three Citizenship merit badges, or any thing that has different ones that go with it like that. Space Exploration, and so on, but if you want to get original there are things like Photography or different things like that. On Saturday night after the counselors go home we have a lot of fun. If we get snow then we have even more fun but at all times make sure to follow all scout rules including but not limited to the scout oath and law. If the lake is frozen do not go on it no matter what. The cabin has three different rooms. Two rooms are meant for sleeping and the third is the dining room but that's also where the adults sleep. In the two bedrooms there are about eight bunks to sleep on and most of the LC sleeps in the second entryway to stay out of the way, because there are normally so many of us.

To Freeze or Not to Freeze?

By David Bender

The Klondike Derby is around the corner in February and it is a really great time. The exact dates are the 15 through the 17 of February 2002. As this article's title suggests, it isn't always cold at the Derby. Last time I went it was a comfortable temperature, but it can get cold. As you may have heard from stories from older scouts, the cold can bring out some of the pyrotechnic qualities of Scouts and Scouters. For example, the first

Freeze Out I went to, Mr. Hanneken, Ty's dad, spent the majority of the day building a fire that melted the snow before it even hit the ground. The camp staff even came over to be sure that everything was all right because they saw the flames over the tents. Perhaps they were thinking that one of our tents had caught on fire. The event is run just like a Camporee or a Pacao. The only differences are that the weather is colder, there is a possibility for snow, the bugs are almost completely gone, and you get to drag a wooden sled around with you. The standard events include first aid, fire building, etc. Last time, the fire building included having to cook a pancake with your fire. The one event that you only get to do at the Freeze Out is the sled races. This inter patrol activity is a camp wide event but you could have a side race with your friend's patrol if you wanted too. The Freeze Out is a great time and is sometimes even better than the regular Pacao or Camporee. See you there!

The Story of Shiloh (the dog)

It seems the hikers on Shiloh hikes five and six gained a local hiking companion. The dog pictured below followed our hikers nearly 20 miles and from what I understand, was still at the park the following day... 20 miles away from home, no collar or tags.

You can probably get the whole story from Teri Simpson, but here's what she said when she emailed us the picture of "Shiloh"... that's the dog's name now.

Here is the newest member to our zoo. He has finally gotten to be friends with the cats. He is the most loveable dog, but he definitely has a mind of his own.

We guess Shiloh is our unofficial Troop mascot and we bestow upon him/her the rank of "Tenderpaw" Scout.



Things Heard at Shiloh

- ✓ No, I don't know how far it is to lunch
- ✓ My feet hurt!
- ✓ That restaurant has got to be up here somewhere
- ✓ Are we going to Sonic?
- ✓ Are we the last ones in to eat lunch?
- ✓ Hey, Brad... you back there?
- ✓ Hey look, Brad's ahead of us
- ✓ Is there still blood in that pond?
- ✓ Does a cannon attract a compass needle?
- ✓ It's poop again! (quote from a movie, heard way too many times)
- ✓ Look at all the fried food. We must be in Miss-ippy.

Layout by Mr. Epestine, pictures & "one liners" by many others.

Finally, the part you've all been waiting for... pictures! Life in the Pickwick Landing State Park cabins is pretty much just like home. Our cabins were right on the TN river near Pickwick Dam.



Someone got a new hat this trip



We found a real good buffet in "Miss-ippy" (ask Wes)



It was all you can eat. Hiking can make you hungry



Scouts relax and unwind. Cabin 2 was pretty much "Nintendo Central".



This was the biggest uprooted tree I've ever seen.



The last thing to do before leaving is fill out your credential cards



The TN River really is pretty there in the morning.



Some of our Scouts worked on Cycling MB at Shiloh



We turned the Troop trailer into a chow wagon. Many guys ate on the stone wall.



Some Guys on hikes 1&2 rest at the MO monument



Mike Pleimann's coaching worked! The compass hikers came out of the woods on target



We brought a few adults along to give us encouragement



Hikes 3&4 group down by the river near Pittsburgh Landing



Less than a mile from a good sit-down, this group looks ready



Not all the interesting things to see at Shiloh are historical. Can anyone tell us what that is in Bryan Rapp's hands?

A new feature... Scouts working on their Eagle project, a Troop service project, Adult event coordinators who need a hand... any who feel they have something that fits this part of the newsletter. We'd like to see some ideas to dress it up to get more attention.

Help Wanted

First, Bryan Rapp is working on his Eagle Project

Hey, this is Bryan Rapp. As most of you know, I am a Troop Guide and also a Life Scout. I'm working on my Eagle Service Project and I am looking for volunteers to help me work on it. I'm going to be building four bookshelves for my church. Besides helping me on my project, you will also get service hours which you can use to get the next rank you might be working on. I will be putting up a sign-up sheet at the next troop meeting (1/7/02) if you are interested. If you are interested, you can call me at 894-1928 or you can just sign-up at the meeting. On 1/7/02, I will have the dates of when I will be working on the project. In case of an emergency, first aid will be provided at all times. I hope to see your name on the sign up sheet.

David Pleimann is also working on his Eagle Project

I'm working on a book drive for South County Habilitation Center. The purpose is to collect children's books and picture books. I'm looking for donations. If you have anything to donate or know of someone that might, let me know. I will also need runners. As the book drive will be like Scouting for Food. Call Dave Pleimann at 487-4680. The target date for collection is sometime by the end of January. I'll have more details and perhaps a signup sheet at upcoming Troop meetings.

A Scout Is... Thrifty

A scout works to pay his way and to help others. He saves for the future. He protects and conserves natural resources. He carefully uses time and property.

Upcoming Events

- ✓ **January 7** Troop Meeting at WMS
- ✓ **January 14** Troop Meeting at WMS
- ✓ **January 19** Truck Transportation Merit Badge Center, **where?, We need a coordinator**
- ✓ **January 21** PLC at Mr. Fitzgibbons' (No School)
- ✓ **January 24** Parent's Meeting 7:00 PM at WMS
- ✓ **January 25-27** Advancement Camp at Swift. Usually around \$15. Coordinated by Mark Baxter
- ✓ **January 28** Tr Mtg at WMS w/ Trautwein Webelos
- ✓ **February 4** Tr Mtg at WMS w/ Hagemann Webelos
- ✓ **February 11** Troop Meeting at WMS
- ✓ **February 15-17** Winter Freeze Out at Beaumont. **We need coordinators.** Details to follow.
- ✓ **February 18** PLC at Mr. Fitzgibbons' (No School)
- ✓ **February 25** Dinner Court of Honor at Concord Trinity United Methodist. Coord: Mrs. Rouse & Rose
- ✓ **February 28** Parent's Meeting 7:00 PM at WMS
- ✓ **March xx** High-Low Ropes Course at Beaumont, Ron Schrenker & ? Coordinating, **cost \$\$\$**
- ✓ **March 2** Crime Prevention Merit Badge Center, **where?, In need of a coordinator**
- ✓ **March 4** Troop Meeting at WMS
- ✓ **March 11** Troop Meeting at WMS
- ✓ **March 18** PLC at Mr. Fitzgibbon's
- ✓ **March 21** Parent's Meeting 7:00 PM at WMS

Troop meetings are held every Monday (3rd Mondays are PLC only) at 7 PM in the Washington Middle School (WMS) cafeteria unless otherwise noted.

Parents' meetings are generally 4th Thursdays of the month at WMS Art Room (upstairs, through the gym to the far left corner) unless otherwise noted

In the Next Issue...

On November 30 to December 2nd, the troop held its annual **Meet the Webelos** Cabin Campout at Beaumont. We had excellent weather for this years event. The food was excellent but that was to be expected from our veteran coordinators Frank Efthim and John Dundon. The three Mr. Zeuner's (Tom, Tim, and Steven) lent an invaluable experienced hand. This year the fire alarm went off only about six times before we figured out how to disable it (don't tell the Ranger). We also somehow got a new smell to come out of the oven.

If anyone has stories, one-liners, or pictures, let's try to get them to the editors by the Jan 28th Meeting.